

## **Appendix III**

# **DIVING ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **1) REMOVE VICTIM AND OTHER DIVERS FROM WATER**

- A. If possible - GET VICTIM ON BOAT AND STABILIZE.
- B. If not possible - recall other divers or summon nearby help to recover victim
- B. RECALL OTHER DIVERS FROM WATER - ensure that all are aboard or taken care of  
- rev-up engine in NEUTRAL 7 times and/or sound Diver Alert underwater

### **2) STABILIZE VICTIM ON BOAT (1 or 2 people - others to work on comms and evac)**

- A. SIT OR LIE VICTIM DOWN and calm them
- B. REASSESS PROBLEM:
  - 1) ABC's
  - 2) Shock
  - 3) Bleeding
- C. START FIRST AID
  - 1) Begin treatment log (including dive history or profile)
  - 2) CPR if needed
  - 3) Administer 100% Oxygen - until chamber
  - 4) Treat for shock, bleeding, trauma, etc.

### **3) BEGIN EVACUATION (1 person)**

- A. START BOAT AND FREE FROM MOORING
- B. HEAD TOWARDS NEAREST POINT OF EVACUATION TO HOSPITAL
  - 1) If by land ambulance - nearest road on shore that ambulance and boat can reach
  - 2) If by air - best spot for air evac. (lee of reef or closest point of approach)
- C. PROVIDE BEST SPEED/RIDE POSSIBLE
- D. Establish and communicate concrete plan for evacuation once all factors are known  
- formulate back-up in case of primary failure

### **4) SUMMON AID (1 or 2 people)**

- A. Cell Phone
  - 1) Call nearest chamber and inform them of situation - on Emergency Phone Numbers list
  - 2) Call Evacuation Service (Coast Guard or 911) and arrange evacuation
- B. Radio
  - 1) Call Coast Guard (VHF Channel 16) - speak slowly and clearly and repeat yourself
  - 2) "US Coast Guard, this is R/V ALDO LEOPOLD on Channel 16, over" - wait for reply
- C. Visual
  - 1) Signal nearby vessels if necessary - smoke; flares, waving towel or dive flag
- D. GIVE INFORMATION:
  - 1) Diving Accident - need help
  - 2) Name of Vessel and Number of People on Board
  - 3) Position - Lat./Long. And nearest reference point (ex. 2 miles west of Carysfort Reef)

### **5) OTHER CONDITIONS**

- A. Keep Situation Calm, Evacuate Buddy and Medical History with Victim, Air Transport Below 800 ft.

## **EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

## **USCG STATIONS**

Group Marathon(305) 743-6778/6388

Group Key West(305) 292-8800

Miami Medical(305) 535-4350/4458

### **DAN EMERGENCY**

Duke University Medical Center - Operator(919) 684-8111

Non-Emergency(919)84-2948

### **CHAMBERS**

Mercy Hospital, Coconut Grove(800) 662-363724 HR  
(800) 854-0300Chamber

Jackson Memorial, Miami(305) 585-251024 HR - Triage Center

South Miami Hospital, South Miami(305) 662-818124 HR  
(305) 662-8145Chamber

Mariners Hospital, Key Largo (Jeff Bertsch)(305) 852-4418x345

Fisherman's Hospital, Marathon (Kim Mc Donald)(305) 743-9891Fl. Keys Hyperbaric

Hyperbaric International (Dick Rutkowski)(305) 451-2551Daytime

### **TAMPA, FLORIDA**

St. Joe's Hospital(800) 275-3483/4869

**ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

Florida Hospital(407) 896-6611 x 1549

**SARASOTA, FLORIDA**

Sarasota Memorial Hospital (max. depth 66 ft.)(813) 917-1866